

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant appreciates the Interview conducted February 28, 2007 with the Examiner, wherein it was clarified that a certified English translation of the foreign application need not be submitted in reply to the present action. Instead, a certified translation would only be needed to perfect foreign priority. The Examiner acknowledged that the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

The Examiner requested Applicant's cooperation in reviewing the specification for possible minor errors. In response, Applicant amended the paragraph on page 2, line 13 of the present application to correct a grammatical error.

Claims 1-5, 7-10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minakuchi (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0098288 A1) in view of Nenov et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,062,509). In response, Applicant amended independent claims 1, 10, and 12 to further clarify how the inconsistency is resolved, and respectfully traverses the rejection on this basis.

Minakuchi is directed to a selection sight evaluation device which stores information concerning selection items and presents selection items to a user to allow the user to select one or more of the presented selection items. In the Office Action on page 4, first paragraph, the Examiner acknowledges that Minakuchi does not explicitly disclose determining whether or not inconsistency occurs between an information item

and at least one other information item, which has already been inputted. However, the Examiner cites Nenov for teaching this feature.

Nenov shows in FIG. 4 a guesser module 72 that performs a pattern match to determine the similarity of a product specified in the raw data against one or more known products. Raw data with sufficiently high similarity with the known product is automatically assigned a standardized product code. Accordingly, Nenov teaches to guess a product code, but does not resolve inconsistency by modification of a previously registered information item or reinput of another information item.

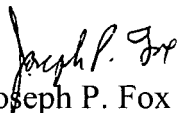
In contrast, independent claims 1, 10 and 12 are amended to clearly distinguish over the prior art by clarifying that when an information item is determined as inconsistent, the inconsistency is resolved by either modification of a previously registered information item or a reinput of another information item. Support for this amendment can be found in Applicant's specification on page 60, line 21 et. seq. Since the cited references fail to disclose or suggest resolving inconsistency of an information item that is determined as inconsistent by modification of a previously registered information item or reinput of another information item, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By


Joseph P. Fox
Registration No. 41,760

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300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080
Customer No. 24978